

FORT CHRISTINA

Seventh Street and the Christina River, Wilmington

Built under the direction of Peter Minuit and named for the queen of Sweden, this first Swedish military outpost (1638) in the Delaware Valley was the nucleus around which the first Swedish settlement in North America developed. The fort fell into disrepair after the English conquest in 1664. In 1938, in commemoration of its tercentenary, the state of Delaware developed the site as a park. The site features an imposing sculpture including a representation of the *Kalmar Nyckel*, the ship that brought the first settlers. It was sculpted by Carl Milles and presented by the people of Sweden.